

Notes & Group Questions from May 23-29 readings (*Questions (Q:) for groups are bolded below*)

**2 SAMUEL 2:12-15:22**

5/23 - Today's Second Samuel readings are quite dramatic! We start off with the beginnings of what I think you could call a civil war between Judah and Israel in chapter 2 verses 15 through 17: *"So twelve men were chosen to fight from each side—twelve men of Benjamin representing Ishbosheth son of Saul, and twelve representing David. Each one grabbed his opponent by the hair and thrust his sword into the other's side so that all of them died. So this place at Gibeon has been known ever since as the Field of Swords. A fierce battle followed that day, and Abner and the men of Israel were defeated by the forces of David."* In chapter 3, it is interesting to see how David got so mad at Joab for killing Abner. Understandable for many reasons - murder being the main one - but also Abner was working to bring David's kingship to all of Israel. Joab's murder of Abner threatened the civil war between Judah and the rest of Israel to start up again. **Q: How does all the fighting and murder stand out to you in the Old Testament readings? Does fighting and murder continue in our world today? Why is this?**

5/24 - Second Samuel chapter 4 verse 11 stood out as David said this to the 2 murderers of Ishbosheth: *"Now what reward should I give the wicked men who have killed an innocent man in his own house and on his own bed? Should I not also demand your very lives?"* Similar to the Amalekite who claimed to have killed Saul and reported this news to David, David was not happy with the news. This all reminds me of the old adage that you cannot fight evil with evil - you'll get corrupted in the process. These 2 guys murdered an innocent man, thinking they were doing a greater good for David. David disagreed. **Q: Are there times in our lives where we do something wrong / bad / lie / evil for what we think might be a greater good? Aren't we then corrupted in the process?**

5/24- In Second Samuel chapter 6 when the Ark is brought back to Jerusalem verse 14 is phenomenal to imagine: *"And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly tunic."* And David's words in verse 21 are something for you and I to consider in our lives today - *"So I am willing to act like a fool in order to show my joy in the LORD."* **Q: Are you willing to act like a fool to show your joy in God? Have you ever danced before God with all your might? Think you ever could?**

5/25 - Second Samuel 7 today is a big chapter! God essentially establishes a covenant with David - it isn't expressly called a covenant, so I suppose it is more of a promise. Verse 16 is a nice sum-up of God's promise to David: *"Your dynasty and your kingdom will continue for all time before me, and your throne will be secure forever."* The throne is secure forever because from the lineage of David comes Jesus. Jesus is forever. Genealogies in [Matthew 1](#) and [Luke 3:21-38](#) will give you more details on this lineage. It is interesting that God does not want David to build him a temple, but lets David know one of his descendants will in verses 12 & 13: *"For when you die, I will raise up one of your descendants, and I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who will build a house--a temple--for my name."* We will later learn the reasons for this in 1 Chronicles 28 verse 3 when David says - *"But God said to me, 'You are not to build a house for my Name, because you are a warrior and have shed blood.'"* David was a warrior - as is very evident in Second Samuel 8 today. David's purpose was to unite and establish Israel. David's son Solomon will build the temple for God. I love David's prayer of thanksgiving to God in 2 Samuel 7 verses 18-29 today! **Q: How often do you pray prayers of thanksgiving like David did? Should we be thankful and express gratitude to God every day?**

5/26 - Interesting set of readings today in Second Samuel. We start off with David showing kindness to Saul's crippled grandson Mephibosheth and we end with David committing adultery, ordering the murder of one of his warriors, and making God very unhappy. What happened to change the course of events like this?? I think this is something that each one of us should take heed of - even when things are going very well in our walk with God, things can suddenly go the wrong direction if we are not vigilant in fleeing from sin and temptation. David was obviously tempted when he saw Bathsheba from his rooftop. He should have left that temptation there, and fled from it immediately - but instead he gave into it. He asked about Bathsheba (entertaining temptation...) and invited her over and then committed adultery. Then... things got worse. That's how sin goes. Once we let it start to *run* our life it can quickly start to *ruin* our life. David thought he could trick Uriah into thinking Uriah got his wife pregnant - but Uriah in chapter 11 was behaving much more honorably than the king! He would not sleep with his own wife when he knew other warriors were sleeping on the battlefields. Uriah acted honorably. David did not. David allowed sin to run the show. Below is a powerful painting by James Tissot showing the moment on the rooftop where David allowed temptation to take over... **Q: Again - back to our lives - have you ever seen a pattern of sin running the show in**

**your life?** I know I have in the past. It's a dangerous pattern to see taking place in our lives. It can lead to all kinds of pain and suffering for ourselves and those around us. If you are perhaps even in the midst of sin running the show in your life now, there is hope. There is confession and repentance. David does give us this example in Psalm 51. Psalm 51 David wrote after the events in chapter 11 took place with Bathsheba & Uriah. Psalm 51 is a powerful Psalm of confession and repentance. You may be at the point where you need to pray this Psalm to God now. I think each of us does well when we pray this Psalm to God regularly. We certainly may not be at the point where David was in chapter 11 - but, we likely have sin to confess to God - even right now. [Click here if you'd like to pray Psalm 51 now.](#)

5/27 - We read a great parable from the prophet Nathan today to start the chapter! Wow. Convicting stuff for David... You'll note that David said in response to this parable in verse 6: *"He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."* Well, sure enough, David paid for the death of Uriah 4 times over through the future deaths of 4 of David's sons: the unnamed son who dies in this chapter, Amnon dies in chapter 13, Absalom in chapter 18, and Adonijah in First Kings 2:25. I read a commentary that said God forgave David of his sin, but God did not negate all the consequences of David's sin. **Q: Do you believe that even if we are forgiven of our sin that there still may be consequences of our sin?**

5/28 - Second Samuel chapter 13 is a sad chapter to read in so many ways! Amnon is David's first born son, so he is heir to the throne at this point. Absalom is David's third born son - but at this point he may have been second in line to the throne because David's 2nd born son, Kileab, was only mentioned once and may have died young. You'll note that there are unfortunately are some parallels in David's sin with Bathsheba and Uriah with his 2 sons' behavior in this chapter. David sinned sexually with Bathsheba - Amnon sinned sexually against Tamar in a horrible way. David sinned by ordering the murder of Uriah. Absalom sinned by ordering the murder of Amnon. Unfortunately we see a pattern of "like father, like sons..." in this chapter. I don't think this always has to be the case in our human condition - I do believe we can be redeemed and transformed and not act in sinful ways like our parents may have acted. But, I also do believe we need Jesus to save us from ourselves - in this regard of breaking the cycle/pattern of sin and in all regards. **Q: Have you seen instances of "like father, like son" in our world today? Can we break free from cycles of sin in our family histories? How?**

5/29 - Well.. this is a tough couple of chapters to read today! On one hand we see David showing much grace to Absalom and meanwhile Absalom is plotting to rebel against his father and then does so! At first glance it makes me wonder what on earth was David thinking? Why did he bring Absalom back to Jerusalem? But, I believe David was doing the right thing. Absalom was his son. David was trying to restore that relationship. I think about this with people in my life who have maybe "stung" me in some way. On the one hand I want to write them off - believing that they will sting me again. And maybe they will... but, I don't think writing people off is healthy ultimately for me and I don't think it is the right thing to do. I think showing grace, forgiveness and compassion is the right thing to do. I think David did this - and then he wisely got out of town when he realized Absalom was up to no good! So, he didn't completely let Absalom walk all over him. He still used wisdom. I don't know... this is a tough couple of chapters. **Q: What do you think? Did David do the right thing by bringing Absalom back to Jerusalem? Do you see any parallels in your life where someone has stung you - and then perhaps stung you again? Was it still maybe the right thing to do to show them grace and forgiveness? And maybe even to do so again?**

#### **JOHN 13:1-18:24**

5/23 - Wow. Jesus' teaching in John 13 verses 14 - 17 are so powerful today: *"And since I, the Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. How true it is that a servant is not greater than the master. Nor are messengers more important than the one who sends them. You know these things--now do them! That is the path of blessing."* **Q: Are you on the path of blessing? What might it mean to "wash other's feet" today? Yes, perhaps at times it literally means wash other's feet. Could it mean other acts of service as well that perhaps we maybe think we are "too good for" or "above" in any way? Jesus humbled himself to wash other's feet. Are you humbling yourself to serve others in ways that your ego might not like?**

5/24 - I love the dialogue today between Thomas and Jesus in John 14 verses 4 through 6! Somehow I didn't quite remember the context of Thomas' question setting up Jesus' profound statement in verse 6. Beautiful. Jesus starts us off in verse 4 - *"And you know where I am going and how to get there."* *"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We haven't any idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."* These last two sentences of Jesus' we've probably all heard many times. But how often have we asked Thomas' question either to ourselves or to God or to now one in

particular - "how can I know the way?" Jesus answers this for us perfectly. **Q: Have you ever felt in your life that you didn't know the way? Do you believe that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life?**

5/24 - Verses 12 through 14 today are so convicting for me - because I really rarely follow this teaching (or fully believe in it?) of Jesus' - *"The truth is, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, because the work of the Son brings glory to the Father. Yes, ask anything in my name, and I will do it!"* **Q: Do you believe that you can do the same works Jesus has done, and even greater works?** I'll confess - I'm not so sure that I do. I mean, it's encouraging to think that I could, even if I don't fully believe it. And, yet, I believe most everything else Jesus teaches. Why would I doubt this teaching? Maybe it's because I have some sort of inferiority complex - or maybe I think it would be prideful to think this. But Jesus teaches it quite plainly! Or... maybe... I haven't really asked Jesus for the guidance and wisdom to believe this - and asked for even just this in his name.

5/25 - Wow. Today's John chapter 14 readings start off strong with a very short sentence of teaching from Jesus in verse 15 - *"If you love me, obey my commandments."* Not too complicated there, eh? :) Really... it's quite easy to understand. And believe. But to obey... hmmm... I've been thinking about that "obey" word quite a bit lately. In fact, it's a word that has been spray painted around my neighborhood lately - "obey" - I think for some political statement reasons. It's not really a popular word. But it's a pretty straightforward teaching from Jesus. Obey. Obey my commandments. *"If you love me, obey my commandments."* I really do believe that true freedom is found in this. When we are obedient to Jesus' teachings and God's will in our lives, we truly will be living "free" lives. I know it sounds like an oxymoron. But I believe it is true. The more we obey Jesus' teachings, the freer we truly become. **Q: Do you think this is true? Are you obeying Jesus' teachings in your life? Do you feel freer?**

5/25 - Well, if we are wondering how on earth we can possibly obey Jesus' teachings, He graciously answers this for us in the next two verses in today's readings: *"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world at large cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you do, because he lives with you now and later will be in you."* Basically, we cannot obey Jesus' teachings on our own. Using our own will power or smarts or strength, we will fail. We need the Holy Spirit, living with in us, to give us the grace and strength to obey Jesus' teachings. The Holy Spirit rounds out the Trinity and leads us and guides us. **Q: Are you looking for the Holy Spirit? Do you recognize the Holy Spirit living within you? Do you believe the Holy Spirit is leading you into all truth?**

5/26 - Today we read one of my favorite chapters in the Bible - John 15. I cannot tell you how much this chapter means to me and I hope to you as well. John 15 takes place just after the Last Supper, the night before Jesus dies on the cross, so this is one of Jesus' last teachings to the disciples - and to you and me. It is so beautiful. My quick personal story on this chapter is that I have only preached verbally once - and it was when I was in Bulgaria several years ago on a short-term mission trip. Our team ended up going to a small Roma church - and I mean small - in a village outside of the capital city of Sofia. As we drove up to the village where the church was located I saw rows and rows of grape vines in and around the village. I knew I would be preaching that evening - each person on our team took a turn every night. And initially I was planning to preach from a Psalm - but, when I saw the vineyards I quickly decided to preach from John 15, and it turned out to be so beautiful. I literally ended up outside of the church - all of us could not fit in the tiny 1 room church - under some grape vines preaching from John 15. God showed up. I cannot even remember what I said, but God moved. I pray that as you read John 15 today God moves for you as well. John 15 is something special. (John 16 & 17 are something special as well. . .) **Q: Have you ever been on a mission trip and had a powerful experience that you can share with your group?**

5/26 - Today in John 15 verses 12 & 13 we will read these words of Jesus - *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."* **Q: Why would Jesus give us such a command as this? Why would Jesus give this command the night before he died on the cross? How did Jesus show his love for us? Do you agree that there is no greater love than laying down one's life for his friends? Did Jesus do this for you and me? If we are to love each other as Jesus loved us, how do we do this? When we look at Jesus' life and how he lived it, what might we be able to model in our lives? When we look at Jesus laying down his life for us, how might we be able to "lay down our life" for our friends? Do you love others as Jesus loved you?**

5/27 - John chapter 16 is amazing today! I love verse 8's teaching from Jesus about the Holy Spirit: *"And when he comes, he will convince the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment."* One commentary on this verse and verse 9 today says: "Apart from the Spirit's convicting work, people can never see themselves as sinners." Wow. This is powerful to reflect upon. **Q: Did you ever have a time in your life that you**

did not see yourself as a sinner? Was this time before you experienced the Holy Spirit? Do you believe this to be true - that many in our world today cannot see themselves as sinners, apart from the work of the Holy Spirit and Jesus? This I think should demonstrate to us who is truly doing conversion work in our world - not us, but Jesus and the Spirit. We cannot convert anyone on our own human power. The Holy Spirit must enter the room...

5/28 - John 17 is such an amazing chapter... this is Jesus praying! So powerful. I honestly am at a loss for words on this chapter. I could probably try to write something about each and every verse. But, maybe what makes the most sense is for you to re-read this chapter again. **Q: Do you see Jesus praying for you in this chapter? What does it mean to you that Jesus prayed for you?**

5/29 - Sad to see this parallel... David was betrayed by Absalom in today's readings and Jesus was betrayed by Judas... David kissed Absalom, his betrayer. Judas kissed Jesus to betray Him. Seems that betrayal has been a part of our human condition for maybe all time? Well, since the Fall to be sure, which is pretty much all time for us humans... (you'll recall just after the Fall Cain murdered Abel - yet another betrayal...) **Q: Do betrayals continue today? Why do you think this is? What can free us from betraying each other? Or should I ask Whom can free us from betraying each other?**

### **PSALM 119:1-119:112**

5/23 - Whoo-hoo! Today we begin Psalm 119, the longest Psalm and chapter in the Bible! This Psalm is a beautiful meditation on God's Word and how it helps us stay pure and grow in faith. Almost every verse in this Psalm mentions God's Word. I pray that this Psalm is encouraging to you as you read through the One Year Bible! Today in Psalm 119 verse 11 we read: *"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."* **Q: Have you hidden God's word in your heart? So that you might not sin against God? Do you realize that all sin is indeed a sin against God? Are you memorizing Scripture on a regular basis? And, more importantly, reflecting on Scripture?** Check out this link for some great free online resources to help you memorize Scripture - <http://www.memoryverses.org/>

5/24 - Wow. Psalm 119 verse 29 is powerful: *"Keep me from lying to myself; give me the privilege of knowing your law."* Do you ever lie to yourself? If you answered no, are you lying to yourself now? :) I think that lying to ourselves is part of our fallen human condition. I think we're probably pretty good at it. And I think that maybe the cure for this is even found in this same verse - the prayer of *"give me the privilege of knowing your law."* It is a privilege to know God's Word. It is a free privilege, but a privilege that I think we can often take for granted or simply ignore. Through our study of God's Word let us pray that we allow God to show us any area of our life where we might be lying to ourselves. And let us allow God to redeem that area and give us the clarity of Truth. **Q: Like this Psalmist, will you pray to God and ask Him to keep you from lying to yourself? Will you pray this prayer often?**

5/25 - Today in Psalm 119 verses 47 & 48 we read – *"I delight in your commands because I love them. I lift up my hands to your commands which I love, and I meditate on your decrees."* **Q: Do you believe it is possible to delight in God's commands? Why might this be a good thing? Do you believe it is possible to actually love God's commands? What are God's commands? Where can we find them? (okay, I'll give you a hint – the answer is all over Psalm 119 :) - God's Word, the Bible is where we can find God's commands) Do you meditate upon God's decrees as found in the Bible? Do you love the Bible? This seems like a strange question to ask in some regards. . . but, maybe ask yourself this – do you love books in general? I think many of us would say we love books. (Maybe using the term loosely. . .) So, if we were to consider just one book that it would really make sense to invest our time in; to meditate upon; to read for all of our lives; to love – what would that book be? Why would it be that book? Are you a bookworm when it comes to the Bible?**

5/25 - Today in Psalm 119 verse 37 we read: *"Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word."* **Q: Are there currently things in your life that you are spending time on – focusing your eyes on – that are worthless? What are these things? Do you want to turn your eyes away from these things? Will you? Do you believe that your life can be preserved by the Word of God – the Bible? How will you continue to preserve your life according to God's Word on a daily basis? Do you consider the Bible literally to be a "life preserver" for you in the midst of the raging rivers of life? Will you hold onto this life preserver each and every day?**

5/26 - Wow. I love Psalm 119 verse 54 today - *"Your principles have been the music of my life throughout the years of my pilgrimage."* What a beautiful metaphor - God's principles being the music of our lives through all our years as we are on our pilgrimage. Great stuff! **Q: How might God's principles actually become the music of your life? Do you think you'd need to be reading God's Word frequently to tune into his frequency? (did you catch that -**

**frequently & frequency? :) I commend you for reading the Bible each day this year as we go through the One Year Bible. I pray you'll continue to read the Bible daily in all of your years to come. I pray God's principles are and will be the music of your life.**

5/26 - Verse 59 today is a great verse for each of us to consider - *"I pondered the direction of my life, and I turned to follow your statutes."* **Q: Have you ever reached a mid-life or maybe even a quarter-life crisis where you pondered the direction of your life? Do you like the direction your life is heading now? Do you want to change that direction? Will you turn to follow God's way? God's Truth? God's life for you? Do you believe that God's plans for you are so much bigger than any plans of your own that you could dream up on your own?**

5/27 - Psalm 119 verse 71 has an interesting take on suffering - *"The suffering you sent was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your principles."* **Q: Do you believe suffering can be good for you? Can it teach you to pay attention to God?** Christianity Today magazine had a great article on Suffering a while back, which you can read [at this link](#). (Note that the article starts out with this provocative statement - *"God loves you and has a difficult plan for your life."*) Also, I did find some reflections on Suffering & Grief on ChristianityToday.com that are worth reading [at this link](#).

5/28 - I am continuing to love our readings of Psalm 119! This is an incredible Psalm... I somehow am re-reminded of how amazing this Psalm is every 6 months that we read it in the One Year Bible. I could write something on each verse. For example, I love the imagery in verse 81 today - *"I faint with longing for your salvation; but I have put my hope in your word."* I faint! I long! I hope! And Verse 83 - *"I am shriveled like a wineskin in the smoke, exhausted with waiting. But I cling to your principles and obey them."* I am shriveled! I am exhausted! I wait! I cling! I obey! I love this Psalm... Verse 95 is powerful: *"Though the wicked hide along the way to kill me, I will quietly keep my mind on your decrees."* **Q: How can you quietly keep your mind on God's decrees? Will you make this a habit to quietly keep your mind on God's decrees? Would this be a good habit?**

5/29 - Psalm 119 verse 105 is one of my favorite verses in the Bible! *"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path."* **Q: Do you believe God's Word, the Bible, is a lamp for your feet? A light for your path? To help put this in perspective - without God's Word, the Bible, is it possible that we would have no lamp for our feet? No light for our paths? That we'd essentially be groping in the darkness without God's Word, the Bible?**

5/29 - Verse 111 wow... *"Your decrees are my treasure; they are truly my heart's delight."* **Q: What is your treasure? Where is your treasure? Is God's Word, the Bible, truly your heart's delight?**

#### **PROVERBS 15:29-16:9**

5/23 - Proverbs 15 verse 30 today teaches us: *"A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones."* This is a great reminder to spread good cheer to others and to not hesitate in sharing good news with others whenever possible. It brings joy to the heart and health to the bones! **Q: How are you bringing good cheer to others in your life these days? How and when do you share good news with others? How can we bring joy to the heart of others?**

5/24 - Proverbs 15 verse 32 I think is one great reason for us to be in community with others: *"If you reject criticism, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding."* I think if we are not in community with others, we can avoid criticism. Which is just as good as rejecting criticism. But, if we are truly in community with others - and yes, community can and should be messy really - then we will inevitably be criticized at some point and in some way by those around us in community. But this is a good thing! We need to listen to correction from those around us. We need to grow in understanding. Let us live our lives in community! **Q: Are you in community? A community that will actually constructively criticize you from time to time? And will you listen to this criticism so that you might grow in understanding?**

5/25 - Wow... how powerful is Proverbs 15 verse 33 today? - *"Fear of the LORD teaches a person to be wise; humility precedes honor."* **Q: Do you believe this Proverb to be true? Does fear of God teach us to be wise? Why would humility precede honor?**

5/26 - Proverbs chapter 16 verse 3 is so very wise for each of us - *"Commit your work to the LORD, and then your plans will succeed."* **Q: Based on today's Proverb, do you commit your work to God? Do you pray about your work and pray that it will be pleasing to God? Do you pray for others at your work? Do you pray for specific projects and meetings? Do you commit your work to God each and every day?**

5/27 - Proverbs chapter 16 verse 5 today teaches us: *"The LORD despises pride; be assured that the proud will be punished."* This Proverb reminds me of a talk I recently heard by [Jim Collins](#), author of Good to Great. I am a huge fan of Jim Collins work and had the good fortune to hear him talk about his recent monograph titled ["Good to Great and the Social Sectors"](#), which I HIGHLY recommend to anyone who works in full time ministry or for a nonprofit - or even anyone who volunteers for either. It's only 42 pages long, but packed with incredible incredible insights. (secular business insights - but great stuff) Anyhow, Jim Collins wrapped up his talk with something that reminded me of this Proverb. He said something along the lines of, "As we go about our work and move our nonprofits/ministries from good to great, let us never fall into the trap of thinking that we've arrived. Let us not fall into the trap of ever thinking that we are great." **Q: Have you ever fallen into the trap of thinking you are great? Also, what verses or insights stand out to you in today's readings?**

5/28 - Proverbs 16 verse 7 is interesting today - *"When the ways of people please the LORD, he makes even their enemies live at peace with them."* Do you believe this to be true? I do... And I think I've seen this in action in my own life very recently. Sometimes I think we can get so worried about our perceived enemies or whatever else - when really all we should be focusing on is our relationship with God. And this other stuff will work itself out. It's secondary. Our relationship with God is primary. **Q: Is this true in your life today? Has God ever given you peace with your "enemies"?**

5/29 - Proverbs 16 verse 9 is one of those seemingly simple Proverbs, that I think has a lot more depth to it than first glance: *"We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps."* **Q: Do you think this is true? We make our plans - but God determines our steps. Do you see this to be true in your own life? Have you made plans before, but then seen your steps somehow be guided in perhaps a different direction - perhaps a more godly direction? And then do you realize that it was God determining your steps?** I have experienced this in my life - thankfully. I have made some interesting (i.e. bad) plans in my life in the past - and probably am still making some bad plans even today. But, I am trying to pray regularly to God to "lead me." I want God to determine my steps - and truly, I want God to determine my plans as well. But, if God's plan is not immediately clear for my life, I do believe he gives wisdom to discern direction - and then ultimately I believe God will determine our steps. Thank goodness!

#### **Group discussions:**

- Introductions.
- What were some of your favorite verses or passages from the past week's readings?
- What are some questions that were generated for you based on the past week's readings?
- What is something new you learned about God or the Bible from the past week's readings?
- How did God speak to you through the past week's readings?
- What is something you want to change or grow in your life based on the past week's readings?
- **Discuss the bold Questions in the Study Notes**
- Any prayer requests for the group for the coming week?

**Each group is encouraged to close in prayer.**

**Daily questions for this next week's readings you may want to journal or pray through and discuss with your group next Sunday:**

- My favorite verses or passages:
- What I learned from the readings:
- My questions for further study:
- How God spoke to me through the Word:
- Something I want to change or grow in my life based on the Word:
- My prayer points based on the Word:

**Visit [www.OneYearBibleBlog.com](http://www.OneYearBibleBlog.com) this next week for daily commentary and questions for reflection.**